

# COVID-19

Friday, July 10, 2020

## COVID-19 UPDATES AND REMINDERS FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY

The Snohomish Health District advises the number of COVID-19 cases continues to increase in Snohomish County, as do the impacts on employers and organizations. Details of two facility closures at right.

## SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

### COVID-19 Updates and Reminders for Snohomish County

The number of COVID-19 cases continues to increase in Snohomish County, as do the impacts on employers and organizations. While the Snohomish Health District typically does not release the names of businesses associated with confirmed cases, there are occasional exceptions based on outbreaks or potential exposure to high-risk populations. Today there are two such notifications.

#### Child Care Ordered to Close

A Health Officer's Order was issued to Tender Hearts Day School in Marysville. This child care location was closed due to an ongoing outbreak of COVID-19 among staff and children, and the potential for continued transmission.

As of today, there are 10 confirmed and four probable cases, primarily involving children. The Health District is continuing to work with impacted staff and families on symptom monitoring, testing status and quarantine procedures as needed. The center is currently closed through July 14.

In accordance with WAC 246-101-425, employers must be prepared to fully and promptly assist the Health District in a communicable disease case or outbreak investigation. Employers may be asked to provide the Health District with a list of employees or visitors that were onsite within a specific time period. The Health District's expectation is that information should be readily available and sent immediately, or no more than four hours after requested.

Employers should return all calls immediately and prioritize any requests made. Identifying and contacting all close contacts of a confirmed case within 48 hours is a critical piece of being able to quickly contain and stop the spread of illness. It is also one of the metrics being reported on a weekly basis to the state to monitor the county's progress in the Governor's Safe Start plan.

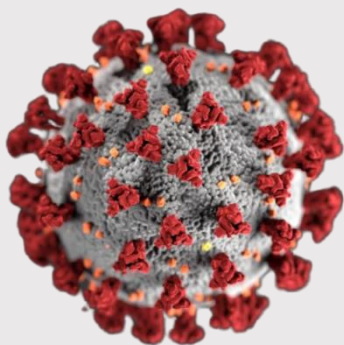
#### Temporary Increase at Isolation & Quarantine Site

Following COVID testing at the Everett Gospel Mission Men's Shelter last week, results were received yesterday with one positive individual. The resident who tested positive has no symptoms and is currently in stable condition. The Everett Gospel Mission closed the Men's Shelter out of an abundance of caution for cleaning and sanitizing.

There have been 51 residents temporarily relocated to the isolation and quarantine facility located at Evergreen State Fairgrounds. All who may have come in contact with the positive case will be tested for COVID-19 and monitored. Out of respect for the privacy and security of those at the isolation and quarantine facility, no additional information is available at this time.

The isolation and quarantine facility was established by Snohomish County in April as part of the COVID-19 response. Isolating those who are considered infectious and quarantining those who have been exposed and may become infectious has helped to reduce transmission.

Snohomish County is required to provide resources for the safe, temporary isolation and quarantine of people who may have been exposed and are not able to safely quarantine from the virus in their own home, or who are among the county's unsheltered population. Located in a secure building



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## DRIVE-THRU TESTING CHANGES AND UPCOMING SCHEDULE

See information at right for changes to testing and the upcoming drive-thru testing schedule.

on the county-owned Fairgrounds property, residents remain under the care of the trained staff until it is determined that they no longer pose a threat of transmission in the community. A typical stay would extend from just a few days up to two weeks (occasionally longer), depending on the circumstances. Security is provided by local law enforcement and a private security firm.

### Drive-thru Testing Changes and Upcoming Schedule

The number of people seeking testing at the Snohomish Health District's drive-thru locations has been increasing, with most appointments booked up early in the week. From July 1-8, there were 571 individuals tested and 19 were found positive for COVID-19.

Given this increased demand, the Health District will no longer be providing testing for travel-related purposes or for pre-approval needs for medical procedures. The Health District needs to ensure people who are ill or connected to a confirmed case, outbreak or high-risk population are prioritized. Individuals needing testing for travel or medical procedures are encouraged to contact their healthcare provider or a private clinic.

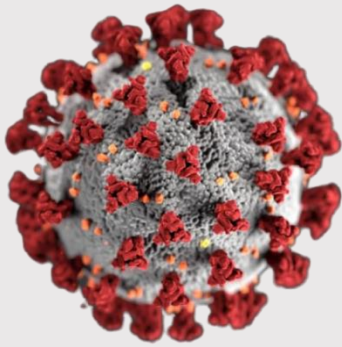
The schedule for the week of July 13 is as follows:

- Monday, July 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at McCollum Park located at 600 128<sup>th</sup> St SE in Everett
- Tuesday, July 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lynnwood Food Bank located at 5320 176<sup>th</sup> St SW
- Wednesday, July 15 from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. at McCollum Park
- Thursday, July 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sno-Isle Libraries branch located at 311 Maple Ave in Snohomish
- Friday, July 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at McCollum Park

Testing will be available to those who are:

- Sick and have developed any of the following symptoms within the last 14 days:
  - Fever,
  - Chills,
  - Cough,
  - Difficulty breathing,
  - Fatigue,
  - Muscle pain or body aches,
  - Headache,
  - Sore throat,
  - Runny nose or nasal congestion, or
  - New loss of taste or smell.
- Asymptomatic individuals who:
  - Are a close contact of a confirmed case, or
  - Live in a congregate setting, like a shelter, group home or assisted living facility, or
  - Work in a location that has had a case,
  - Part of a family or social network that has had a case, or
  - Work in healthcare, EMS, law enforcement or other fields where work settings have a higher risk of catching or spreading COVID-19, or
  - Are part of a racial or ethnic group that has been disproportionately impacted by this virus in terms of rate or severity of cases (this includes people who are Black, Latinx, Native American/Alaskan Native, or Pacific Islander).

Due to some system updates needed today, registration for next week's appointments will open the morning of Saturday, July 11 at [www.snohd.org/drive-thru-testing](http://www.snohd.org/drive-thru-testing).



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## DATA UPDATES AND COVID ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT

See the information at right for the updated data through July 4 and the COVID-19 Activity Snapshot.

## HEALTH DISTRICT REMINDERS FOR BUSINESSES

Snohomish County businesses: please complete the form identifying your COVID site supervisors.

## HEALTH DISTRICT SHARES UPDATED INFORMATION FOR FOOD BUSINESSES DURING COVID-19

The Snohomish Health District Food Safety team on Thursday sent a message to food businesses including up-to-date guidance for dine-in services, employee safety and health, and customer safety and health. It gives a good idea of what customers can expect, too.

## Data Updates and COVID Activity Snapshot

The [report for the week ending July 4](#) has now been posted, as well as the updated [COVID activity snapshot](#) that provides metrics aligned with the Phase 2 approval. Note that this week's snapshot and the weekly report have some minor differences to last week, largely due to the holiday and some data being run mid-week. This week's snapshot clarifies those numbers in the "change since last report" column.

Key highlights for the time period from June 18 – July 2 include:

- A case rate of 53.3 per 100,000 in a 14-day period, up from 38.5 per 100,000 from June 10-25.
- Average percentage of tests positive for COVID-19 is stable compared to last week at 5.4%, but is up from its low of 2.3% five weeks ago.
- Number of outbreaks involving two or more cases in a 14-day period at a workplace, congregate or institutional setting has increased from 3 to 5.
- Additional staff being hired by the Health District has helped increase the ability to reach cases and contacts sooner, with the number of cases reached within 24 hours increasing from 32% to 57%.

There have been some questions received on why these updates do not match information on the [Phases and Risk Assessment Dashboard](#) provided by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). The data online change every day when new cases get reported. This is because the newly reported cases on any given day have a variety of different specimen collection dates. DOH's dashboard is updated frequently, whereas the Health District's report is a weekly snapshot. Overall, these are negligible, technical differences that do not affect the information and general impression provided by the data.

## SNOHOMISH COUNTY SNAPSHOT

TIME PERIOD: JUNE 18 – JULY 2  
PUBLISHED: JULY 10, 2020

### COVID-19 ACTIVITY AND CAPACITY IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Snohomish County moved to Phase 2 on June 5. The Snohomish Health District monitors these metrics and submits a weekly report to the Washington State Department of Health.



#### COVID-19 ACTIVITY

COVID-19 ACTIVITY	TARGET	CURRENT	CHANGE SINCE LAST REPORT
Confirmed cases reported June 18 - July 2, 2020	<25 cases / 100,000 residents / 14 days	53.3	↑ from 38.5
Trends in hospitalization for lab-confirmed COVID-19	Flat or decreasing	slight decrease	↓

## Health District Reminders for Businesses

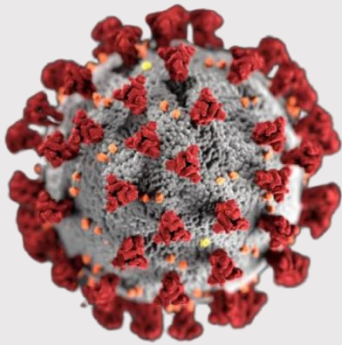
To help the Health District quickly identify COVID site supervisors within each business location, an online form has been created at [www.snohd.org/EmployerNotifications](http://www.snohd.org/EmployerNotifications). The Health District is requesting that all employers in Snohomish County fill out the form, which identifies a primary and back-up contacts. Completing this form will also ensure your organization is contacted promptly, and through your preferred channels of staff appropriately trained on what to do when contacted.

Additional business guidance was included in [an earlier press release](#).

## Health District Shares Updated Information for Food Businesses During COVID-19

The Snohomish Health District Food Safety team on Thursday sent a message to food businesses with health and safety information related to





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## **VIDEO: TRAVEL CONTINUES TO PRESENT CHALLENGES DURING COVID-19 CRISIS**

A brief social media video published by the JIC contains travel guidance during Phase 2. Click the links or the image at right.

## **SNOHOMISH COUNTY INITIATES COVID-19 OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR MENTAL WELLBEING**

Snohomish County, in partnership with Volunteers of America Western Washington, has created the Community COVID Outreach Counselors Program to provide emotional support services to residents of Snohomish County whose mental health has been impacted by COVID-19.

the COVID-19 pandemic. Many food businesses have worked hard to reduce the spread of illness by following reopening guidelines. The message includes up-to-date guidance for dine-in services, employee safety and health, and customer safety and health. It gives a good idea of what customers can expect, too.

Read the full message here:

[www.snohd.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/117590](http://www.snohd.org/CivicSend/ViewMessage/Message/117590)

## **Video: Travel Continues to Present Challenges During COVID-19 Crisis**

The Joint Information Center has published a brief social media video containing some travel guidance during Phase 2. It pays to know the facts before booking a trip, and to remember that remaining near home is one of the best strategies at this time for reducing the spread of COVID-19. The video addresses several questions we've received in recent weeks, including limited access to testing with rapid results. Detailed travel advice also is available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/>

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

# Should I travel in Phase 2?

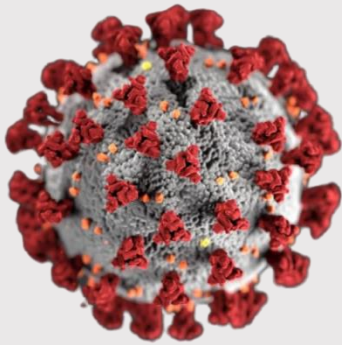


## **Snohomish County Initiates COVID-19 Outreach Program for Mental Wellbeing**

Snohomish County's Department of Human Services announced the creation of the Community COVID Outreach Counselors Program to provide emotional support services to residents of Snohomish County whose mental health has been impacted by COVID-19. This program will be in partnership with Volunteers of America Western Washington, is







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## DATA SUGGEST WEARING MASKS COULD SPARE HUNDREDS OF LIVES IN WASHINGTON

The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the UW prepared projections through November 1 and presented alternative scenarios that include easing social distancing mandates and the effects of universal mask use. Click on the image at right to see what occurs in Washington.

## STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS EXPLAIN CONTACT TRACING

A new blog posted by the Washington State Department of Health explains how contact tracing works.

supported by federal CARES Act funding, and addresses the mental health crisis that is co-occurring with the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We know that pandemics like COVID-19 have a tremendously negative impact on both physical and mental health," said Snohomish County Director of Human Services Mary Jane Brell Vujovic. "We have set up very effective care for those who contract the virus and are striving to do more in providing support to our community members. This new program will help us mitigate the negative outcomes from the stress, anxiety, and depression triggered by the pandemic."

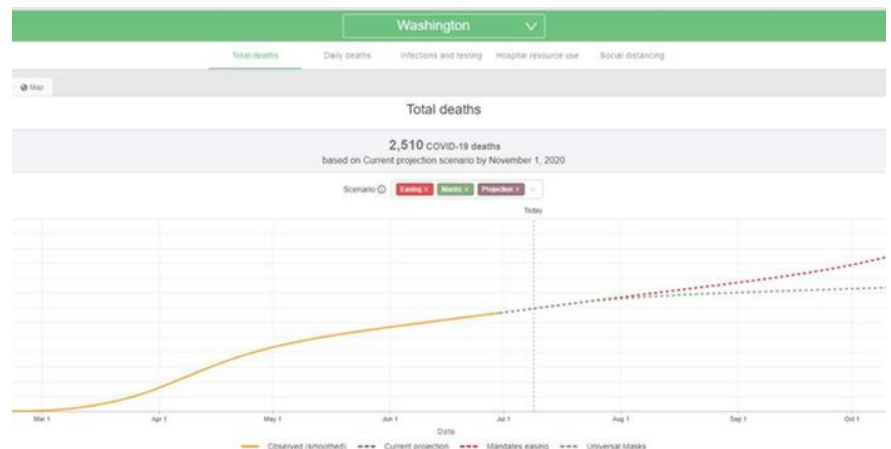
Snohomish County residents living through the COVID pandemic will experience varying degrees of anxiety, trauma, stress and depression. The COVID Outreach Counselors program is intended to help residents better recover and rebuild their lives. Community COVID Outreach Counselors will provide short-term interventions designed to provide emotional support and to connect residents with needed services and resources. Community COVID Outreach Counselors' approach is strength-based, anonymous, outreach-oriented, conducted in non-traditional sites and is designed to strengthen existing community support systems.

The COVID Outreach Counselors Program will support impacted residents across Snohomish County who reach out for support associated with COVID related anxiety, trauma, stress and depression. Community COVID Outreach Counselors will receive direct referrals as well as referrals from 211, family members, friends, co-workers, teachers, neighbors and others concerned about how individuals are coping with COVID induced changes. The Counselors will provide short-term interventions that help citizens understand their current situation and reactions. To access the service, residents in need may call 2-1-1.

## Data Suggest Wearing Masks Could Spare Hundreds of Lives in Washington

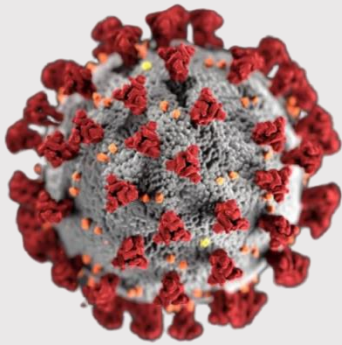
The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington continues to provide [data and analysis](#) related to the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. IHME now has prepared projections through Nov. 1, and presented them in alternative scenarios that include easing social distancing mandates and the effects of universal mask use.

The data suggest that Washington could top 2,500 COVID-19 deaths by November, but that number could be reduced by nearly 800 if people are rigorous about wearing masks and face coverings.



## State Health Officials Explain Contact Tracing

COVID-19 in Washington is now spreading faster than before among younger people and people of color. Most people who get COVID-19 will



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## **WAIVER EXTENSION: WIC WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE REMOTE SERVICES**

WIC will continue to provide remote services through September 30. The waiver granted by Congress will allow the program to enroll new applicants, provide nutrition education and breastfeeding support, and issue food benefits by phone or video chat.

## **WASHINGTON STATE FOOD SECURITY UPDATE**

The Washington State Department of Agriculture reported it distributed more than 1 million pounds of food to more than 192,000 Washingtonians this week.

recover nicely. Even so, none of us wants to be the person who got someone else sick or made someone deathly ill. Let us help you with that!

If you get an unexpected call from the health department, answer the phone. If you miss a call, they will leave a voice mail or text you. Call them back. These are contact tracers, and they are calling because one of your friends has been diagnosed with COVID-19. You have been exposed, and your friend wants to make sure you don't spread it to your loved ones. The health department will keep all your information confidential. That is, they won't tell anyone you were exposed to COVID-19, and they won't tell you which of your friends has been diagnosed with COVID-19, unless that person gave them permission to.

At the time you get this call, you may feel perfectly well. People who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 can sometimes spread the disease before they get any symptoms at all.

For more information, read the [full blog post](#).

## **Waiver Extension: WIC Will Continue to Provide Remote Services**

Congress recently extended waivers that permit Washington WIC to offer remote services through September 30. WIC is the [Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children](#). While the rules normally require in-person meetings, the waivers allow WIC to enroll new applicants, provide nutrition education and breastfeeding support, and issue food benefits by phone or video chat. Since WIC started offering remote services, program participation grew by about 4 percent and the rate of missed appointments dropped from 15 percent to almost zero.

Washington WIC also expanded the list of allowed foods to give families more choices. Participants now shop for WIC foods using a WIC card, which makes shopping easier. The [WIC Shopper App](#) is another new tool that helps WIC families pick out the right foods. The app has parenting tips and recipes that are great for all young families, not just those on WIC.

WIC gives families access to nutritious food and provides health screening, risk assessment, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and referrals to health and social services. The program provides essential services for pregnant people, new and breastfeeding moms, infants, and children under five. Most pregnant people and young children on Medicaid or Basic Food (SNAP) qualify for WIC services.

Given layoffs and other economic consequences related to COVID-19, people may be seeking WIC services for the first time. WIC has capacity and welcomes new families. To find WIC services in your area:

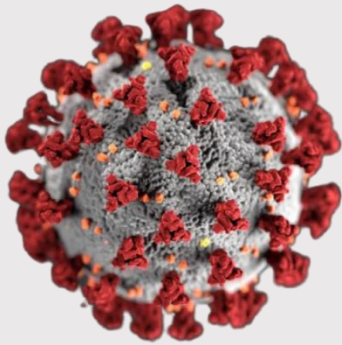
- Text "WIC" to 96859
- [Visit ParentHelp123's ResourceFinder](#)
- Call the Help Me Grow WA Hotline at 1-800-322-2588

For more information please read DOH's [news release](#).

## **Washington State Food Security Update**

The Washington State Joint Information Center provided the following update regarding the State's response to food insecurity:

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) continues to provide hunger relief, as more people out of work due to COVID-19 are experiencing food insecurity. The agency reports it distributed more than 1 million pounds of food to more than 192,000 Washingtonians this week. The WSDA this month provided \$6.3 million of federal CARES Act funding to hunger relief organizations for food purchases, freezers, storage trucks and other operational needs. Additionally, more than 450 National Guard



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## USDA CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: APPLY BY AUGUST 28, 2020

Farmers or ranchers whose operation has been impacted by COVID-19 can apply for USDA Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. Link at right.

## WHO UPDATES SCIENTIFIC BRIEF ON COVID-19 TRANSMISSION

The World Health Organization updated their scientific brief on the transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19.

## CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Data on case counts are available on the Snohomish Health District [website](#) and the Washington State Department of Health [dashboard](#).

## ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211** for help.

members have helped support 30 food banks across the state by boxing and food and assembling meals. Since the beginning of the agency's response to the pandemic, soldiers and airmen have helped process 35 million pounds of food.

## USDA Coronavirus Food Assistance Program: Apply by August 28, 2020

Farmers or ranchers whose operation has been directly impacted by COVID-19 can apply for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. Applications are being accepted through August 28, 2020.

For more information or to apply please visit USDA's [webpage](#).

## WHO Updates Scientific Brief on COVID-19 Transmission

The World Health Organization updated their scientific brief, originally published on March 29, 2020, to include new scientific evidence on the transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. WHO reported that transmission primarily occurs when people are showing symptoms, but can also happen just before they develop symptoms – when they are in close proximity to others for prolonged periods of time.

For more information please read WHO's updated [brief](#).

## Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of July 10, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 1:45 p.m.
Confirmed	3,925 (up 53 cases from 7/9)
Probable	514 (down 1 from 7/9)
Deaths	178

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 1:45 p.m.
Arlington	175 (130 recovered)
Bothell*	308 (220 recovered)
Brier	25 (23 recovered)
Darrington	<5 (<5 recovered)
Edmonds	421 (347 recovered)
Everett	1,311 (1,011 recovered)
Gold Bar	5 (<5 recovered)
Granite Falls	33 (30 recovered)
Index	0
Lake Stevens	187 (131 recovered)
Lynnwood	754 (649 recovered)
Marysville	388 (274 recovered)
Mill Creek	70 (55 recovered)
Monroe	121 (87 recovered)
Mountlake Terrace	138 (118 recovered)
Mukilteo	79 (72 recovered)
Snohomish	217 (170 recovered)
Stanwood	138 (106 recovered)
Sultan	11 (8 recovered)
Tulalip	29 (24 recovered)
Unknown/Other	<5 (<5 recovered)
Woodinville*	16 (11 recovered)
Woodway	8 (8 recovered)

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Unknown includes cases still under investigation. \*Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.

